

PRESS RELEASE

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Madison, Wisconsin -- Erik C. Peterson, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that Robin Coven-Brunson, 53, of Milwaukee, was sentenced today by Chief Judge Barbara B. Crabb to seven months in federal custody and ordered to pay \$8,698 in restitution to the United States Treasury.

Coven-Brunson was formerly employed full-time as a legal assistant doing secretarial work for the U.S. Department of Justice at the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Wisconsin in Milwaukee, with total annual pay of \$48,910. During the period from September 25, 2005 through March 25, 2006, Coven-Brunson worked full-time and was paid approximately \$19,014 for that time period. During that same time period, Coven-Brunson fraudulently applied for unemployment benefits from the Wisconsin Department of Work Force Development and obtained unemployment checks totaling \$8,698. Reimbursement for these payments was then made from the United States Treasury to the State of Wisconsin.

U.S. Attorney Peterson stated that today's sentencing was the result of an investigation conducted by the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Inspector General. Prosecution of the case has been handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney John W. Vaudreuil.

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